

## APPENDIX D: SCORP PUBLIC INPUT DOCUMENTATION

### 2008-12 SCORP Public Presentations

Group/Meeting	Date	Place
Citizens Committee for Michigan State Parks	9/19/07	Sleepy Hollow State Park, Laingsburg, MI
Accessibility Advisory Council	9/24/07	MARVAC Offices, Okemos, MI
Statewide Council	10/2/07	Mason Building, Lansing, MI
Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance	10/4/07	Foster Community Center, Lansing, MI
Public Workshop	10/9/07	Douglas Walker County Park, Grand Rapids, MI
Public Workshop	10/11/07	Michigan State Fair Grounds Community Building, Detroit, MI
Public Workshop	10/12/07	Bay City City Hall, Bay City, MI
Public Workshop	10/16/07	Marquette Commons, Marquette, MI
Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Board	10/17/07	Bay City State Recreation Area, Bay City, MI
Public Workshop	10/18/07	RAM Center, Roscommon, MI
Michigan Waterways Commission	10/19/07	Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters, East Lansing, MI
Forest Management Advisory Committee	11/7/07	Michigan United Conservation Clubs, Lansing, MI
Michigan Natural Resources Commission	11/8/07	Lansing Center, Lansing, MI

## **Press Release for Public Input Workshops**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sept. 24, 2007

Contacts: Lisa McTiernan 517-241-4717, Chuck Nelson 517-432-0272 or Mary Dettloff 517-335-3014

### **DNR Seeks Public Input on State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Statewide Workshops Planned in October**

A statewide series of workshops will involve the public in reviewing the draft State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), Department of Natural Resources officials announced today. The meetings will start on Oct. 4 in Marquette.

To comply with Michigan's participation in the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), in which the state makes funds available to local units of government and other public agencies to acquire land and develop facilities for outdoor recreation, the DNR must update its current statewide recreation plan.

The public workshops planned for October will give the DNR an opportunity to present the draft 2008-12 SCORP and to provide anyone interested in outdoor recreation issues in Michigan a chance to offer feedback and suggestions on the plan.

The workshop sessions are planned for:

- Marquette. From 2 to 4 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 4, at the Marquette Commons located at 112 S. Third St.

- Roscommon. From 2 to 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 5, at the Ralph A. MacMullen Conference Center located at 104 Conservation Dr.

- Grand Rapids. From 2 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 9, at the Douglas Walker Park located at 1195 W. 84th St. in Grand Rapids.

- Detroit. From 2 to 4 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 11, at the Community Arts Building at the State Fair Grounds located at 1120 W. State Fair.

- Bay City. From 2 to 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 12, in Room 317 of the City Hall Building located at 301 Washington Ave. in Bay City.

The workshops are open to the public and no advance registration is necessary.

The nine goals identified in the 2008-12 SCORP are:

- Conservation of natural resources
- Universal access
- Community recreation
- Improving Michigan's state parks
- Improving Michigan's state forest recreation

- Improving cooperation and coordination among recreation providers
- Recruitment and retention of hunters and anglers
- Encouraging “green” technology in outdoor recreation development
- Expanding, improving and connecting Michigan’s trails, including blueways and greenways

The draft SCORP is available on the DNR Web site and in hard copy format at the workshop sessions. To access the draft plan online, go to [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr) under “Spotlight,” and comments may be submitted online as well. If a person cannot attend one of the workshops, they can submit comments online or can mail them to DNR Grants Management, P.O. Box 30425, Lansing, MI 48909.

Individuals attending the meeting are requested to refrain from using heavily scented personal care products to enhance accessibility for everyone. Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for this meeting should contact Lisa McTiernan at 517-241-4717 a minimum of five working days prior to the meeting to ensure accommodations can be arranged.

The DNR is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the state's natural resources for current and future generations.

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## **Press Release for Public Input Workshops**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sept. 28, 2007

Contacts: Mary Dettloff 517-335-3014 or Lisa McTiernan 517-241-4717

### **DNR Reschedules Two Public Workshops on State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan**

The Department of Natural Resources today announced that in the event of a partial shutdown of state government it was rescheduling two public workshops originally scheduled for Oct. 4 and 5 on the draft 2008-2012 State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).

The Oct. 4 workshop in Marquette was rescheduled for 2 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 16, in the Marquette Commons located at 112 S. Third St. The Oct. 5 workshop scheduled for the Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center in Roscommon was rescheduled for 2 to 4 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 18, at the conference center.

The following meetings will take place as scheduled:

\*Grand Rapids. From 2 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 9, at the Douglas Walker Park located at 1195 W. 84th St. in Grand Rapids.

\*Detroit. From 2 to 4 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 11, at the Community Arts Building at the State Fair Grounds located at 1120 W. State Fair.

\*Bay City. From 2 to 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 12, in Room 317 of the City Hall Building located at 301 Washington Ave. in Bay City.

To comply with Michigan's participation in the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), in which the state makes funds available to local units of government and other public agencies to acquire land and develop facilities for outdoor recreation, the DNR must update its current statewide recreation plan.

The public workshops planned for October will give the DNR an opportunity to present the draft 2008-12 SCORP and to provide anyone interested in outdoor recreation issues in Michigan a chance to offer feedback and suggestions on the plan.

The workshops are open to the public and no advance registration is necessary.

The draft SCORP is available on the DNR Web site, and in hard copy format at the workshop sessions. To access the draft plan online, go to [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr) under "Spotlight," and comments may be submitted online as well. If a person cannot attend one of the workshops, they can submit comments online or can mail them to DNR Grants Management, P.O. Box 30425, Lansing, MI 48909.

Individuals attending the meeting are requested to refrain from using heavily scented personal care products to enhance accessibility for everyone. Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for this meeting should contact Lisa McTiernan at 517-241-4717 a minimum of five working days prior to the meeting to ensure accommodations can be arranged.

The DNR is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the state's natural resources for current and future generations.

## **Invitation Letter to Stakeholders for Public Input Workshops (on DNR Letterhead)**

September 18, 2007

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

SUBJECT: Land and Water Conservation Fund Information and Discussion Sessions

Under the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) program, the National Park Service makes money available to the states to acquire land and develop facilities for public outdoor recreation. These funds are administered by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The DNR may apply for LWCF assistance for department projects and/or award grants to local units of government and other public agencies.

To apply for Land and Water Conservation Funds, each state must have a current State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) approved by the National Park Service (NPS). The DNR's current SCORP expires on December 31, 2007.

The SCORP is intended to:

- Identify outdoor recreation issues of statewide importance, including which issues will be addressed with LWCF assistance.
- Evaluate demand/public outdoor recreation preferences.
- Evaluate the supply of public outdoor recreation resources and facilities.
- Include an implementation program of strategies, priorities and actions for expending LWCF monies.

The new SCORP will govern how the DNR makes use of LWCF funding starting in 2008 through 2012.

The DNR has contracted with Michigan State University (MSU), Department of Park, Recreation and Tourism, to develop Michigan's new SCORP. Dr. Charles Nelson is leading this effort, supported by an inter-disciplinary team of DNR staff, to prepare recommendations on the issues and priorities that will govern how the DNR makes use of its LWCF funds for the next five years. To assist the DNR in its review of the recommendations, we are providing an opportunity for information sharing and informal feedback.

Dr. Nelson will be presenting a brief overview of the draft SCORP and recommendations at five informal information/discussion sessions to be held in October. The sessions will be open to the general public, and we are encouraging the participation of your agency/organization due to your particular interest in outdoor recreation issues in Michigan.

The sessions will be held on the following dates and locations:

October 4	2:00 pm-4:00 pm	Marquette Commons, Marquette 112 S. Third Street
October 5	2:00 pm-4:00 pm	Ralph A. MacMullen Conference Center 104 Conservation Drive Roscommon
October 9	2:00 pm-4:00 pm	Douglas Walker Park, Grand Rapids 1195 W. 84 <sup>th</sup> Street
October 11	2:00 pm-4:00 pm	Community Arts Building Detroit 1120 W. State Fair
October 12	2:00 pm-4:00 pm	City Hall, 301 Washington Avenue Bay City Room 317

**The workshops are open to the public and reservations are not necessary.**

The draft SCORP will be available September 25, 2007, on the DNR website and in hard copy at the sessions. The draft plan will be available on the web at [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr) under "Spotlight" and comments may be submitted online at that time. If you cannot attend one of the sessions and wish to provide feedback, you may submit comments via the website listed above or send to Grants Management, Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 30425, Lansing, MI 48909-7925.

Sincerely,

Lisa McTiernan, Grant Coordinator  
Grants Management  
517-241-4717  
[mctiernanl@michigan.gov](mailto:mctiernanl@michigan.gov)

LM:lh

cc: SCORP Development Committee  
Mr. Jim Wood, DNR  
Ms. Deborah Apostol, DNR

**Invitation Letter to Stakeholders for Rescheduled Public Input Workshops (on DNR Letterhead)**

TO: State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Public Workshop Invitee

SUBJECT: **RESCHEDULED PUBLIC WORKSHOPS TO REVIEW THE STATE COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN**

This letter is a follow-up to the one sent to you on September 18, 2007, in which you were invited to attend one of the public review workshops that will be held across the state to discuss Michigan's draft 2008-2012 State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).

We are rescheduling two of the public workshops listed in that letter. They are:

- The **October 4** workshop in Marquette **has been rescheduled to Tuesday, October 16, in the Marquette Commons located at 112 S. Third Street, Marquette.**
- The **October 5** workshop **has been rescheduled to Thursday, October 18, at the Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center in Roscommon, located at 104 Conservation Drive, Roscommon.**

Both workshops will take place from 2 to 4 p.m.

The following meetings will take place as scheduled:

- Grand Rapids. From 2 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 9, at the Douglas Walker Park located at 1195 W. 84th Street in Grand Rapids.
- Detroit. From 2 to 4 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 11, at the Community Arts Building at the State Fair Grounds located at 1120 W. State Fair.
- Bay City. From 2 to 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 12, in Room 317 of the City Hall Building located at 301 Washington Avenue in Bay City.

If you have any questions, please contact me at the number below. Again, the draft SCORP is available on the Department of Natural Resources' website and in hard copy at the sessions. The draft plan is available on the web at [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr) under "Spotlight" and comments may be submitted online at that time. If you cannot attend one of the sessions and wish to provide feedback, you may submit comments via the website listed above or send to Grants Management, Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 30425, Lansing, MI 48909-7925.

Sincerely,

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Grants Management  
517-241-4717  
[mctiernanl@michigan.gov](mailto:mctiernanl@michigan.gov)

LM:lh

## **Thank You Letter to Public Input Workshop Attendee (on DNR Letterhead)**

December 7, 2007

Dear SCORP Public Information Meeting Attendee:

This letter is a follow up to your attendance and participation in one of the five public information meetings concerning the development of Michigan's 2008-2012 State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation (SCORP). I would like to thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedule to provide us direct input concerning the draft priorities for the SCORP. Your input was valued and included.

As you are likely aware, the final SCORP will be submitted by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to the National Park Service prior to December 31, 2007 to ensure that Michigan is eligible for Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) money in 2008. The final SCORP will be posted on our website at [www.michigan.gov/dnr-grants](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr-grants) under "What's New".

In your review, you will note that some of the comments submitted at the meeting are not discussed in the SCORP. Instead, the DNR is directly addressing those items either through the existing initiatives or through the "Open Project Selection Process" (OPSP) which is the method used to evaluate applications to the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Specifically, in 2008 we will be evaluating applications based on alignment with SCORP priorities rather than accepting only Trails or Community Recreation projects. This will allow greater flexibility in meeting the initiatives of the SCORP while encouraging communities and the DNR to identify specific projects that will accomplish them.

The comments submitted were broadly directed at the following areas:

- Overwhelming support for all types of trails and specifically the North Country National Scenic Trail (NCNST) and the need to recognize the level of volunteer support for the trail and the national significance of the trail in terms of tourism and economic benefits. We recognize the opportunity for improved relationship with supporters of the NCNST, and the Trails initiative in the SCORP will reflect Michigan's continued commitment to providing quality trail opportunities.
- Overwhelming support from the mountain biking community and the need to recognize the level of volunteer support for mountain bike trails, and the lack of adequate opportunities to meet the demand. Again, the Trails initiative is intended to address all types of trail opportunities, including mountain bike trails and the LWCF project selection process will specifically address the development of all types of trails.
- The need to support the renovation of park infrastructure and community based recreation. Local park infrastructure will be specifically added to the Community Recreation initiative to reflect this priority and the LWCF project selection process will address both renovation and community based recreation.
- A number of advocates for both more rustic tent camping and more full size RV camping.



- Support for a minimal increase in hunting and fishing license fees as well as support for fewer restrictions on these opportunities.
- The need to support the acquisition of critical inholdings and environmentally significant natural areas.
- The need to continually monitor and safeguard existing parks from encroachment by development and outside pressures to convert parkland to non-recreation uses.
- The importance of Michigan's park and recreation providers to incorporate environmental education and the use of environmentally sensitive elements in the design and development of parks.

These comments and many others will be considered in the final SCORP, and every effort will be made to address the concerns that were identified.

Thank you again for your interest in the SCORP planning process. If you have comments concerning the 2008-2012 SCORP or policies and procedures regarding the administration of LWCF grants, please contact me at 517-241-4717, or by mail at Grants Management, Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 30425, Lansing, MI 48909-7925.

Sincerely,

Lisa McTiernan, Grant Coordinator  
Grants Management  
517-241-4717  
[mctiernanl@michigan.gov](mailto:mctiernanl@michigan.gov)

LM:lh

## **Thank You Letter to SCORP Web Respondent (on DNR Letterhead)**

December 7, 2007

Dear SCORP Web Respondent:

This letter is a follow up to your comments that were posted on the Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) website in response to the development of Michigan's 2008-2012 State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation (SCORP). I would like to thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedule to provide us direct input concerning the draft priorities for the SCORP. Your input was valued and included.

As you are likely aware, the final SCORP will be submitted by the DNR to the National Park Service prior to December 31, 2007 to ensure that Michigan is eligible for Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) money in 2008. The final SCORP will be posted on our website at [www.michigan.gov/dnr-grants](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr-grants) under "What's New".

In your review, you will note that some of the comments submitted on the website are not discussed in the SCORP. Instead, the DNR is directly addressing those items either through the existing initiatives or through the "Open Project Selection Process" (OPSP) which is the method used to evaluate applications to the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Specifically, in 2008 we will be evaluating applications based on alignment with SCORP priorities rather than accepting only Trails or Community Recreation projects. This will allow greater flexibility in meeting the initiatives of the SCORP while encouraging communities and the DNR to identify specific projects that will accomplish them.

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Sincerely,

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LM:lh

cc: Ms. Judy Chamberlain, DNR



